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*Avant-garde Classical Music, Beat Poetry and Folk Protest Songs Launch 9<sup>th</sup> Art of Time Season*  
**America & the Black Angel**

**George Crumb, Allen Ginsberg, Bob Dylan, Woody Guthrie**

-George Crumb's **Black Angels** performed by **Tokai String Quartet** and **Vox Balaenae** performed by **Andrew Burashko** (piano), **Susan Hoepfner** (flute) and **Raphael Hoekman** (cello) with live-mixed film by **Peter Mettler**;

-Allen Ginsberg's **Howl**, performed by **Ted Dykstra**, set to music by **Jonathan Goldsmith** for jazz piano, trumpet, and bass performed by **George Koller** (bass), **Michael White** (trumpet) and **Jonathan Goldsmith** (piano);

-Protest songs by **Woody Guthrie** and **Bob Dylan**, performed by **Josh Finlayson** and **Andy Maize**.

Toronto, September 12, 2007... Artistic Director Andrew Burashko's **Art of Time Ensemble** launches its ninth season, presented by **BMO Financial**, with a bold and powerful concert of contrasts and aesthetic extremes. **America & the Black Angel** features two stylistically different avant-garde works from American contemporary composer **George Crumb** that share the stage with a reading of **Allen Ginsberg's** anthemic **Howl** with jazz accompaniment, and protest songs by **Bob Dylan** and **Woody Guthrie**. The opening concert in Art of Time's 2007-2008 season is daring, entertaining and full of surprises – all trademarks of this innovative company – and takes place **Friday, October 5** and **Saturday, October 6, 2007** at **8pm** at Harbourfront Centre's **Enwave Theatre**. Art of Time's Official Broadcast Partner, **CBC Radio Two**, will record the concert for future broadcast.

**America and the Black Angel** focuses on juxtaposition: dissonance and horror are matched by the beauty of nature, and the resilience of life. Burashko has programmed a multi-disciplinary evening of music, film and poetry around two contrasting works from the Pulitzer Prize and Grammy Award-winning **George Crumb** – the powerful and jarring **Black Angels** and the other-worldly, beautiful **Vox Balaenae (Voice of the Whale)**. Poet **Allen Ginsberg's** (1926-1997) ultimate rant, **Howl**, set to music by **Jonathan Goldsmith** and protest songs by **Bob Dylan** and **Woody Guthrie** share the program. Performing in this audacious evening are **Art of Time Ensemble** musicians **Susan Hoepfner** (flute), **Michael White** (trumpet), **Jonathan Goldsmith** (piano), **George Koller** (bass) and **Andrew Burashko** (piano); the up-and-coming **Tokai String Quartet**; actor **Ted Dykstra** and **Josh Finlayson** and **Andy Maize** of the roots pop band The Skydiggers. **Peter Mettler** accompanies the Crumb pieces with live-mixed film.

An American composer of modern and avant-garde music, **George Crumb** (1929-) is noted as an explorer of unusual timbres and extended technique as well as a composer of hauntingly beautiful scores. He is one of the most frequently performed composers in today's musical world with festivals devoted to his music from Los Angeles to Moscow, and from Scandinavia to South America. The winner of a **2001 Grammy Award** and the **1968 Pulitzer Prize in Music**, he continues to compose new scores that enrich the musical lives of those who come in contact with his profoundly humanistic art.

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**PROGRAM DETAILS:**

***Vox Balaenae (Voice of the Whale)* by George Crumb for electric flute, electric cello and amplified piano**  
**Andrew Burashko** (piano), **Susan Hoepfner** (flute), **Raphael Hoekman** (cello), **Peter Mettler** (film)

**Vox Balaenae** (1971), based on and inspired by whale song, uses conventional instruments to create incredibly innovative and unusual sounds in this atmospheric and musical piece. Most of the piano part is played inside of the piano creating a huge palette of textures and sounds. A celebration of life and nature, Peter Mettler (**Gambling Gods and LSD**, cinematographer for **Manufactured Landscapes**), accompanies the work with a filmscape, improvised live in response to the themes and textures in Crumb's music. Interestingly, Crumb calls for the musicians to wear masks.

**Page Two: Art of Time's *America and the Black Angel***

***Howl* by Allen Ginsberg, set to music by Jonathan Goldsmith**

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**Ted Dykstra** (actor), **Jonathan Goldsmith** (piano), **Michael White** (jazz trumpet), **George Koller** (bass)

One of the most important works of the Beat Generation, *Howl* is indicative of the burgeoning counter-culture of the fifties which led to the social upheaval of the sixties. Set to an original jazz-inspired composition by the extremely gifted Gemini Award winning **Jonathan Goldsmith**, this howl-of-protest poem and its jazz musical backdrop contrasts with the previous deeply meditative soundscape of *Vox Balaenae*. Goldsmith is one of the country's most sought-after film and television composers (Sarah Polley's *Away From Her*, soon-to-be-released *Tenderness*, starring Russell Crowe). The Dora Award winning actor **Ted Dykstra** (of the touring sensation *2 Pianos, 4 Hands* fame) returns to the Art of Time stage after appearing last season in *Arnold Schoenberg: A Portrait*.

**Protest Songs by Bob Dylan and Woody Guthrie**

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**Andy Maize** and **Josh Finlayson** (musicians - The Skydiggers)

Drawing on the themes in *Howl* and leading into the second half of the program, a collection of protest songs by two of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's greatest folk singers provides an intriguing counterpoint to the finale of the evening, *Black Angels*. Though they deal with similar themes, the beautiful harmony of these folk songs contrasts incredibly with the music of Crumb.

***Black Angels* (1970) by George Crumb for amplified electric string quartet**

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**Tokai String Quartet, Peter Mettler** (film)

This achingly powerful and discordant piece was inspired by the shocking horror of the Vietnam War. An evocative example of how art can arise from dissent/descent, Crumb's innovative use of instruments creates music that fully expresses the destruction, death and chaos of that era. *Black Angels* draws from an arsenal of sounds including shouting, chanting, whistling, whispering, gongs, maracas, and crystal glasses for a score both powerful and terrifying, with only brief interludes of beauty and hope. A live improvised film by Peter Mettler also accompanies this piece.

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The **Art of Time Ensemble**, founded by **Artistic Director Andrew Burashko**, presents performances that are based on classical music but have innovative twists of artistry, often combining contemporary music and media such as dance, film and literature with classical pieces. These concerts provoke, entertain and break down barriers, revealing the vibrancy of classical music as a contemporary artistic expression and appealing to a wide range of audiences.

**BMO Financial presents Art of Time Ensemble's  
America & the Black Angel**

***Avant-garde Classical Music, Beat Poetry and Folk Protest Songs Launch 9<sup>th</sup> Art of Time Season***

**Friday, October 5 and Saturday, October 6, 2007 at 8pm**

at the **Enwave Theatre** at Harbourfront Centre, 231 Queens Quay West

Tickets: \$36 (\$25 seniors/students). Call Harbourfront Centre Box Office at 416-973-4000.